

Washington Climate Change Challenge Draft Technical Working Groups' Charter

Purpose

Technical Working Groups (TWGs) are comprised of members of the Climate Advisory Team (CAT) and/or their staff, as well as additional technical members appointed by Ecology/CTED, and serve in an advisory role to the CAT. The TWGs will be structured around the following sectors: Agriculture, Forestry, Energy Supply, Residential/Commercial/Industrial, and Transportation.

The TWGs will perform the following tasks in assistance to the CAT:

- Review the catalog of existing, planned and potential state actions and suggest additional state actions for CAT consideration;
- Suggest a list of initial priorities for analysis of policy actions for CAT consideration through a balloting process;
- Develop and suggest initial “straw proposals” for the design of individual policy actions with the Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) assistance, including goals, timing and coverage of parties for CAT consideration;
- Review CCS proposals for the analysis of individual policy actions, including data sources, methods and key assumptions for CAT consideration;
- Assist with the identification and development of data and assumptions to assist CCS with analysis of individual policy actions for CAT consideration, as needed;
- Respond to requests by the CAT for the development of alternative design scenarios or analyses to address potential barriers to consensus;
- Review draft final text for policy actions and final report language with suggested changes as needed for consideration by the CAT.

The TWG efforts will be directed towards recommendations that fit the unique characteristics of Washington's economy, institutions, and characteristics.

Process

- The TWGs include CAT members and/or their designated staff and additional technical experts.
- CCS and Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting will provide a facilitation and technical analysis team to assist the TWGs, as well as coordination between CAT and TWG activities. As with the CAT, the TWGs will not debate the science of climate change or the goals, but will instead focus on identifying specific actions, design and analyses for CAT consideration that allow Washington to achieve the goals of the Executive Order.
- TWG members are expected to participate fully and consistently in this effort by attending meetings, and staying current with information provided to the group and decisions of the group.

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- If a TWG believes it needs to add additional members, the member must be approved by the CAT co-chairs or their designees. A TWG can utilize any resource as needed within time and budget constraints.

External and Internal Communication.

All meetings of the TWG will be open to the public and announced in advance on the Ecology/CTED climate change website <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/>¹. All of the meeting information and work products will be posted on the website, including agendas and minutes.

¹ <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/index.htm>